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TOHAK 13

NEWS AND COMMENT
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY NEWS SUMMARY

MIDEAST

KISSINGER ARRIVES IN ISRAEL: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER FLEW INTO ISRAEL THURSDAY ON THE FIRST STOP OF HIS NEW MIDDLE EAST PEACE QUEST. HIS ARRIVAL WAS MARKED BY EXTREMELY HEAVY SECURITY, FOLLOWING REPORTS OF A POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION PLOT, AND HIGHLY VOCAL OPPOSITION TO THE LATEST ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN PEACE PLAN.

SPEAKING BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE WEDNESDAY NIGHT, KISSINGER SAID (ON NBC/ABC FILM): "THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO UNDERTAKE THIS MISSION BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT AFTER LONG AND SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS THAT AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES IS POSSIBLE. OBVIOUSLY NO AREA IS MORE IN NEED OF PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE THAN THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH HAS KNOWN FOUR WARS IN TWO DECADES, AND WHOSE UPHEAVALS AFFECT BOTH THE WELL-BEING AND SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES."

IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS ARRIVAL AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT, KISSINGER ASSURED HIS HOSTS, FROM A PREPARED STATEMENT, THAT THE TROUBLES OF THE PAST WERE OVER, AND ISRAEL AND THE U.S. WOULD NEGOTIATE "AS EQUALS."

REFERRING TO THE FAILURE OF HIS STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY LAST MARCH, KISSINGER SAID (ON ABC/CBS FILM): "NOW, FIVE MONTHS LATER, THE GAP IN THE NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY NARROWED BY CONCESSIONS ON BOTH SIDES. I KNOW THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE GONE THROUGH A VERY DIFFICULT PERIOD. THIS HAS ENDED, AND WE

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No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

HAVE EMERGED FROM OUR DIALOGUE, STRENGTHENED IN OUR FRIENDSHIP, AND DETERMINED TO PURSUE COMMON POLICIES."

TED KOPPEL (ABC) SAID THE AGREEMENT WOULD CALL FOR "AN UNPRECEDENTED AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL," INCLUDING BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID, AND THE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF AT LEAST SOME U.S. CITIZENS. KOPPEL SAID, "KISSINGER BELIEVES CONGRESS WILL GIVE ITS APPROVAL, BUT HE ALSO CLEARLY BELIEVES THAT AMERICA WILL HAVE PURCHASED THE RIGHT TO A COORDINATED MIDDLE EASTERN POLICY WITH ISRAEL--A VERY POLITE WAY OF SAYING THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT ABOUT TO LET ISRAEL JEOPARDIZE OTHER AMERICAN INTERESTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD."

"THERE ARE HIGH STAKES RIDING ON THE KISSINGER SHUTTLE," BERNARD KALB (CBS MORNING NEWS) REPORTED. "AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DEAL WOULD HELP DEFUSE TENSIONS IN THE AREA. FAILURE TO GET A DEAL WOULD HEIGHTEN FEAR OF A FIFTH MIDDLE EAST WAR WITH ITS POTENTIAL FOR ANOTHER ARAB OIL EMBARGO AND A SUPER POWER CONFRONTATION. THAT'S WHY THE U.S. FEELS THIS MISSION MUST SUCCEED."

"THERE'S AN ATMOSPHERE OF OFFICIAL CONFIDENCE HERE," NEIL STRAUSSER (CBS) REPORTED FROM ISRAEL BEFORE KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL. "THE OPTIMISM IS PARTLY GROUNDED IN THE BELIEF THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD NOT BE COMING IF HE DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT CAN BE RESOLVED.

"ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS FOR THE ISRAELIS IS THEIR DEMAND THAT ISRAELI SOLDIERS AS WELL AS AMERICAN TECHNICIANS MAN THE BIG EARLY WARNING STATION IN THE STRATEGIC GIDDI PASS. THE ISRAELIS HAVE TOLD KISSINGER THAT THIS DEMAND IS NOT NEGOTIABLE. ADDING TO THE CONFIDENCE HERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON THAT EGYPT HAS ACCEPTED THIS DEMAND WITHIN THE PAST 48 HOURS."

JOHN PALMER (NBC) REPORTED THAT EGYPTIAN LEADERS ALSO FEEL KISSINGER'S SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY WILL SUCCEED. PALMER SAID, HOWEVER, THE EGYPTIANS WANT ISRAELI ASSURANCES OF FURTHER TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS TO HELP MUTE CRITICISM FROM SYRIA AND OTHER MILITANT ARAB STATES THAT EGYPT IS MAKING A SEPARATE PEACE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL.

DESPITE WIDESPREAD OPTIMISM REGARDING KISSINGER'S PEACH SHUTTLE, HOWEVER, TOM FENTON (CBS MORNING NEWS) REPORTED ISRAELI OFFICIALS WERE WORRIED ABOUT THE RECEPTION KISSINGER WOULD RECEIVE FROM RELIGIOUS AND

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

NATIONALIST GROUPS WHO MAINTAIN HE IS FORCING ISRAEL INTO UNREASONABLE CONCESSIONS. THOSE FEARS WERE CONFIRMED THURSDAY NIGHT WHEN DEMONSTRATORS BLOCKED THE EXITS TO A BUILDING WHERE ISRAELI LEADERS WERE HOLDING A RECEPTION FOR KISSINGER. A FEW PROTESTORS BROKE THE POLICE LINES, AND POUNDED ON THE SECRETARY'S CAR AS HE LEFT. --AP;UPI;MORNING SHOWS;NETWORKS (8/21/75)

RABIN MEETS RISING CRITICISM OF EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE BID, BY MICHAEL PARKS, BALTIMORE SUN: EVEN BEFORE ITS CONCLUSION, THE PROSPECTIVE NEW ACCORD BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL IS UNDER ATTACK IN JERUSALEM COMPLICATING THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS.

PREMIER YITZHAK RABIN WILL CITE THE MOUNTING CRITICISM OF THE TERMS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT TO AVOID MAKING FURTHER CONCESSIONS, ACCORDING TO INFORMED ISRAELI SOURCES, BUT THIS OPPOSITION IS ALSO SEEN AS RESTRICTING HIS ABILITY TO TRADE EVEN SMALL POINTS FOR ADDITIONAL EGYPTIAN COMMITMENTS.

DEMONSTRATORS HAVE BEEN PROTESTING THE TERMS OF THE PROSPECTIVE AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY THE 25- TO 30-MILE ISRAELI PULLBACK IN THE SINAI DESERT. ADDITIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS ARE PLANNED THROUGHOUT THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS.

THE DEPTH OF THE FEELING OF MANY HERE AGAINST THE ACCORD WAS ILLUSTRATED YESTERDAY WHEN A HERO OF THE OCTOBER, 1973 WAR TURNED IN HIS MEDAL IN PROTEST. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME ANYONE HAD TAKEN SUCH ACTION, AND IT DREW WIDE AND FAVORABLE COMMENT.

ISRAELIS' CONCERNS ABOUT THE WISDOM OF THE NEW AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN HEIGHTENED BY AN INCREASE IN ARAB GUERRILLA AND TERRORIST INCIDENTS OVER THE PAST WEEK.

"ALL THIS IS QUICKLY HEMMING RABIN IN," A KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIAL HERE SAID. "HE IS LOSING WHAT LITTLE MANEUVERABILITY HE HAD LEFT. HE IS COMMITTED TO AN AGREEMENT DESPITE THIS OPPOSITION AT HOME, BUT IT IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO GIVE TO GET DURING THE FINAL TALKS BECAUSE ANY FURTHER CONCESSION, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, WILL BE ATTACKED."

OTHER ISRAELI SOURCES NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MR. RABIN HOPES TO USE HIS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS TO HOLD THE LINE AGAINST FURTHER CONCESSIONS, ARGUING TO KISSINGER AND PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT OF EGYPT THAT HE HAS GONE AS FAR AS HE CAN.

MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT IS ENGAGED IN AN UNPRECEDENTED EFFORT TO SELL THE TERMS OF THE ACCORD, BOTH ON THEIR OWN

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

AND FOR THE SAKE OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. (8/21/75)

CAIRO OFFICIAL CANDID ON SADAT-PLO RIFT, BY JAMES MCCARTNEY, PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER: A DEEP RIFT HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT AND THE PLO OVER THE ROAD TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST--A RIFT SO DEEP THAT IT APPROACHES AN OPEN BREAK.

GROWING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EGYPTIANS AND PALESTINIANS WERE DISCUSSED WITH REMARKABLE CANDOR BY TAHSEEN BASHEER, A TOP EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL IN A ONE-HOUR LATE-EVENING INTERVIEW IN SADAT'S ABEDEEN PALACE, ON THE EVE OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL ON A NEW PEACE-SEEKING MISSION.

"THE PALESTINIANS HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO ACCEPT CO-EXISTENCE WITH ISRAEL," BASHEER SAID. "THEY HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO ACCEPT THE IDEA OF A SETTLEMENT UNDER LAW. THEY HAVE NOT BEEN WILLING TO ENTER INTO A SPIRIT OF NEGOTIATION."

AS A RESULT, THE EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL SAID, SADAT HAS CHOSEN TO GO HIS OWN ROUTE, COOPERATING WITH KISSINGER IN TAKING A "STEP BY STEP" APPROACH TO PEACE, OUT OF CONVICTION THAT A "SETTLEMENT BY LAW" IS THE BEST WAY.

SPEAKING WITH MANY FEATURES AND WITH OBVIOUS EMOTION, BASHEER VIRTUALLY CHARACTERIZED THE PLO LEADERSHIP AS INTERNATIONAL OUTLAWS. HE FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THE PLO LEADERSHIP MIGHT NOT REPRESENT THE VIEW OF MOST OF THE MORE THAN THREE MILLION PALESTINIANS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST.

BASHEER'S WORDS WERE PERHAPS THE STRONGEST TO DATE FROM AN EGYPTIAN LEADER IN DISCUSSING THE PLO. THEY COULD BE THE BEGINNING OF A CAMPAIGN TO DEFEND SADAT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH KISSINGER ON A NEW TROOP SEPARATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL, DESPITE CRITICISM FROM MANY PALESTINIANS AND OTHER ARABS. (8/21/75)

FOREIGN POLICY

U.S. LIFTS BAN ON CUBAN SALES: THE U.S. LIFTED ITS 12-YEAR-OLD BAN ON SALES TO CUBA BY AMERICAN FIRMS OPERATING IN THIRD COUNTRIES, THE STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THURSDAY. THE ACTION IS PART OF A FOUR-STEP PROGRAM AIMED AT EASING U.S. POLICIES TOWARD NATIONS WHO TRADE WITH CUBA.

HOWARD K. SMITH (ABC) SAID THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS "CLEARLY AN INVITATION FOR CUBA TO MAKE A RECIPROCAL GESTURE--

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

ANOTHER SMALL STEP TOWARDS NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

BUT BERNARD SHAW (CBS) REPORTED: "THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO BE MOVING TOO FAVORABLY, TOO QUICKLY TOWARD CUBA. THUS, A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL SAID WE ARE NOT ADVERTISING THIS AS A CONCILIATORY GESTURE. THE BAN ON EXPORTS FROM AMERICA TO CUBA STILL STANDS, AS DOES THE LACK OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION, AS DOES THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE OF, 'WE ARE PREPARED TO HAVE SERIOUS EXCHANGES WITH THE CUBANS.'"

IN CUBA, TOM STREITHORST (NBC) REPORTED, "COMMUNIST LEADERS DESCRIBE THE PRESENT PHASE AS THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE REVOLUTION. THEY'RE TRYING TO GUARANTEE THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP, CUBA WILL REMAIN A MARXIST-LENINIST STATE." AP;UPI; NETWORKS (8/21/75)

INTERNATIONAL

85 PER CENT OF PORTUGUESE MILITARY SAID TO SUPPORT GONCALVES; OUSTER: PORTUGUESE MODERATE LEADERS SAID THURSDAY ABOUT 85 PER CENT OF THE ARMED FORCES SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS TO OUST COMMUNIST-BACKED PREMIER VASCO GONCALVES. PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES WHO IS AUTHORIZED TO APPOINT A NEW PREMIER, MET WITH THE MODERATES TODAY AND SAID THERE MIGHT BE A STATEMENT SOON ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

"THE BASIC FACT IN PORTUGAL TODAY IS THAT THERE ARE MANY POLITICAL PARTIES AND POWER GROUPS, EACH WITH ITS OWN POLITICAL PROGRAM, BUT NO ONE GROUP HAS THE STRENGTH TO IMPOSE ITS WILL ON THE OTHER, AND THAT INCLUDES THE ARMY, BECAUSE EVEN IT IS DIVIDED. THAT'S WHY THIS POLITICAL DRAMA NEVER LEADS TO A SHOWDOWN. IT JUST GOES ON AND ON," GARRICK UTLEY (NBC) REPORTED. UPI;AP;ABC;NBC (8/21/75)

CONGRESSMAN, VISITING RUSSIA PRESSES OFFICIALS ON EMIGRATION (BY CHRISTOPHER S. WREN, NEW YORK TIMES): A VISITING HOUSE MEMBER SAID IN MOSCOW WEDNESDAY THAT SOVIET VISA OFFICIALS HAD CONCEDED TO HIM THAT THE RECENT HELSINKI DECLARATION MIGHT NECESSITATE SOME CHANGE IN EMIGRATION POLICIES.

BUT REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT F. DRINAN (D.,MASS.) REPORTED THAT THE OFFICIALS IN LENINGRAD AND MOSCOW HAD NOT INDICATED WHETHER ANY CHANGE WAS BEING PLANNED. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. WOULD BE NEEDED TO MAKE MOSCOW IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS ON THE REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES. (8/20/75)

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

COMMENT

MIDEAST

THE NEXT STEP, EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH: THE PROBABILITY IS HIGH THAT EGYPT AND ISRAEL WILL CONCLUDE A SECOND-STAGE SINAI AGREEMENT DURING KISSINGER'S SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY WHICH RESUMES THIS WEEK.

BUT IN VIEW OF ALL THE TRAUMA THAT HAS ATTENDED EFFORTS TO TAKE THIS SINGLE, SMALL STEP, ONE MUST WONDER ABOUT CHANCES FOR THE LONGER, TRICKIER STEPS AHEAD.

CONSIDER THAT, WITH REGARD TO THE CURRENT STEP, ONLY A RELATIVELY FEW SQUARE MILES OF DESERT LAND ARE AT ISSUE, AND YET OVER THIS CHUNK OF DESOLATE LAND A WAR OF WORDS HAS RAGED FOR MONTHS.

OUR CONTENTION IS NOT THAT THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE MITLA AND GIDDI PASSES PRESENTS NO DANGERS TO ISRAELI SECURITY. IN COMPARISON WITH POSSIBLE WITHDRAWALS FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, EAST JERUSALEM, THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, THE SINAI ISSUE IS A PLACID ONE, INDEED.

IN SUM, IF THE KISSINGER MISSION SUCCEEDS, IT SHOULD NOT INSPIRE A WAVE OF EUPHORIA TO THE EFFECT THAT THE MIDEAST BOMB HAS BEEN DEFUSED, OR THAT OTHER STEPS ARE IMMEDIATELY POSSIBLE. PROBABLY THE BEST THING THAT CAN FOLLOW IS A LONG PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATING THIS SMALL GAIN BEFORE MOVEMENTIS ATTEMPTED ON THE ISSUES THAT EXCITE SO MUCH PASSION ON BOTH SIDES. (8/20/75)

RABIN'S COURAGE, EDITORIAL, CONDENSED FROM THE N.Y. TIMES: PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS TAKEN A COURAGEOUS STAND IN ENDORSING STEPS WHICH A SIGNIFICANT AND HIGHLY EMOTIONAL SECTION OF HIS POPULATION RESISTS. HE RECEIVED IMPORTANT SUPPORT ON THE EVE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL IN JERUSALEM FROM YITZHAK NAVON, A RESPECTED POLITICIAN OUTSIDE THE CABINET WHOM MANY ISRAELIS STILL IDENTIFY WITH THE OLD FACTION LED BY FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN.

RABIN HAS ALREADY DEMONSTRATED TO HIS OWN PEOPLE THAT HE IS CAPABLE OF RESISTING U.S. PRESSURE THAT HE CONSIDERS CONTRARY TO ISRAEL'S INTERESTS -- HIS REJECTION OF THE PROPOSED SINAI AGREEMENT LAST SPRING FORCED A SUDDEN CHILL ON U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS. RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS EVEN AFTER THAT SETBACK IS ELOQUENT TESTIMONY TO THE MUTUAL SELF-INTEREST WHICH EACH SIDE, ISRAEL AND EGYPT, PERCEIVES IN THIS ACCORD -- AND MUTUAL SELF-INTEREST IS THE ONLY STRONG FOUNDATION FOR ANY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

SHOULD ISRAELI OR ARAB OPPOSITION TO THIS OPPORTUNITY GAIN THE UPPER HAND AT THIS LATE HOUR, THE CRITICS WOULD THEREBY TAKE UPON THEMSELVES A HEAVY BURDEN TO SHOW HOW THEIR OBSTRUCTION DID ANYTHING TO PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF PEACE FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST. (8/21/75)

MIDEAST: THE COST OF PEACE, EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: ONE THING UNDERSCORED BY THE INTENSIVE EFFORT TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER MILITARY DISENGAGEMENT IN SINAI IS THAT THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL BE VERY EXPENSIVE. ISRAEL IS SAID TO BE ASKING FOR SOME $3 BILLION IN AMERICAN AID IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR -- THE HIGHEST AID REQUEST EVER SUBMITTED.

THEN, WHEN ANOTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS GETS UNDER WAY, PERHAPS IN 1977, THE ISRAELIS WILL WANT MORE ARMS AND MONEY. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE IN FACT UNDERTAKEN AN INDEFINITE FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL, WHICH HAS REPLACED VIETNAM AS THE LARGEST RECIPIENT OF U.S. ASSISTANCE EACH YEAR.

ALL THIS IS NOT TO SUGGEST THERE IS ANY BASIC FOREIGN POLICY ALTERNATIVE. AMERICAN POLICYMAKERS CANNOT INDUCE ISRAEL TO MAKE CONCESSIONS OR ADOPT A SOFTER STANCE EXCEPT BY WITHHOLDING OR THREATENING TO WITHHOLD AID. PRESIDENT FORD DID JUST THAT BY REFUSING TO CONSIDER ISRAEL'S LATEST AID REQUEST UNTIL THE OUTLINES OF A SINAI ACCORD WERE VISIBLE.

AS THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE, HOWEVER, ONE WONDERS IF FORD IS NOT PAYING TOO BIG A PRICE FOR TOO SMALL AN AGREEMENT AND GIVING UP HIS FINANCIAL LEVERAGE TOO SOON, BEFORE A SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION FOR AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT IS BEGUN.

THIS QUESTION NO DOUBT IS BEING CAREFULLY WEIGHED BY FORD. THE PRESIDENT NEEDS A DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS AS HE GOES INTO THE 1976 ELECTION, BUT HE ALSO KNOWS THAT HE CANNOT BOAST A REAL DIPLOMATIC ACHIEVEMENT UNTIL THERE IS A FINAL PEACE SETTLEMENT, FOR IF HE DOES NOT GET THAT, HE WILL CONFRONT MORE HOSTILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND AN OIL CUTOFF THAT WOULD SHATTER NOT ONLY THE ISRAELI BUT THE WESTERN ECONOMIES.

AT ANY RATE, THERE IS LOGIC TO THE VIEW THAT IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TO GO ON PICKNG UP THE TAB FOR ISRAEL'S DEFENSE SUPPLIES THEY OUGHT TO HAVE SOME SAY IN ITS FOREIGN POLICIES. THIS MEANS THEY SHOULD EXPECT ISRAEL -- AS WELL AS THE ARABS -- TO MOVE STEADILY FORWARD TOWARD CONCLUSION OF A PERMANENT PEACE. (8/21/75)

DR. KISSINGER TRIES AGAIN, EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE LONDON TIMES: IF ISRAEL DOES ACCEPT THE PROPOSED INTERIM SINAI

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

AGREEMENT, THE DETERMINING FACTOR WILL NOT BE EGYPT'S ATTITUDE BUT THAT OF THE UNITED STATES. THE ISRAELI PRESS SEES DR. KISSINGER APPROACHING ISRAEL WITH A BIG STICK; BUT HIS BAGGAGE IS ALSO LIKELY TO CONTAIN AN OUTSIZE CARROT WHICH MANY AMERICAN TAXPAYERS WOULD PREFER TO KEEP FOR HOME CONSUMPTION. THUS WHILE MANY ISRAELIS SEE THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT AS ENDANGERING THEIR SECURITY TO NO PURPOSE, MANY ARABS SEE IT AS LIKELY TO STRENGTHEN ISRAEL BY ASSURING HER OF INCREASED AMERICAN SUPPORT, AND TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR HER TO RESIST ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSION ON THE FATE OF THE REMAINING OCCUPIED TERRITORIES OR ON THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS. BOTH SETS OF CRITICS SEE IT AS A STEP AWAY FROM A JUST AND LASTING PEACE RATHER THAN A STEP TOWARDS IT. IT WILL BE UP TO MR. RABIN, MR. SADAT AND DR. KISSINGER TO PROVE THEM WRONG. (8/19/75)

FOREIGN POLICY

'SOLIDARITY' FOR DEMOCRACY IS U.S. DUTY ON PORTUGAL, EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER: WITH DELIBERATE INTENSITY, THE SOVIET AMERICAN CONFRONTATION OVER THE FUTURE OF PORTUGAL HAS REACHED NEW HEIGHTS. IN AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT, THE KREMLIN CALLED FOR "MASS SOLIDARITY" IN SUPPORT OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS. IN HIS TALK TO THE AMERICAN LEGION, PRESIDENT FORD PUT THE RUSSIANS ON NOTICE THAT THEIR BEHAVIOR IN THE PORTUGUESE DISPUTE WILL BE CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT TEST OF THE EARNESTNESS OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO DETENTE.

THE CONFRONTATION, OUTSIDE PORTUGAL, IS THUS FAR LARGELY DIPLOMATIC -- EVEN ORATORICAL, THAT IS FOR THE REST. ANY MATERIAL STEPS TOWARD INVOLVING MAJOR POWERS IN A THIRD NATION'S INTERNAL STRUGGLE -- AND CIVIL WAR IS AN INCREASING THREAT IN PORTUGAL -- WOULD BE DREADFULLY OMINOUS.

NONETHELESS, PRUDENT EAGERNESS TO AVOID INTERFERENCE WITH THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF PORTUGAL COULD WELL BE CARRIED TO WELL-INTENTIONED BUT FOOLHARDY EXTREMES BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

FAR SHORT OF DIRECT INTERVENTION OR OF INTERNAL SUBVERSION -- BOTH OF WHICH WOULD BE INTOLERABLE -- THE U.S GOVERNMENT HAS THE POWER TO DEMONSTRATE SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT FOR THE BELEAGUERED ANTI-COMMUNIST POLITICAL ELEMENTS IN PORTUGAL, SUBSTANTIAL TRADE PREFERENCES, CREDIBLE PROMISES OF BOTH TECHNICAL AND MATERIAL AID, PROMISE OF DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT FOR A FREE PORTUGAL'S BENEFICIAL INTEGRATION INTO THE WESTERN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND AMONG THE DEVICES AVAILABLE -- AND PRUDENT.

THEY SHOULD BE OFFERED, OPENLY AND FORCEFULLY, AS A CONSIDERED EXTENSION OF AMERICA'S COMMITMENT -- AND AS A RESOLUTE

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4

ENCOURAGEMENT TO OTHER FREE NATIONS TO JOIN IN "SOLIDARITY" BEHIND DEMOCRACY AND AGAINST TOTALITARIANISM. (8/21/75)

GOOD SENSE AT THE U.N., EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE N.Y. TIMES: BY A NARROW BUT SIGNIFICANT MARGIN, THE U.N. DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE HAS SIDETRACKED AN OUTRAGEOUS EFFORT, FUELED BY CUBA, TO INJECT THE WORLD ORGANIZATION INTO THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO. THIS VICTORY FOR COMMON SENSE REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT FIRST DIVIDEND FOR A TOUGH BUT REASONED STANCE BY THE U.S. AND ITS PARTNERS AGAINST THE HOLLOW RHETORIC AND MINDLESS MAJORITIES THAT HAVE BROUGHT THE U.N. INTO DISREPUTE AND ERODED ITS SUPPORT.

WHENEVER -- AND IF EVER-- PUERTO RICO'S 2.8 MILLION INHABITANTS DO WISH TO OPT FOR FULL INDEPENDENCE FROM THE U.S., THE CHOICE WILL BE THEIRS THROUGH A FREE EXERCISE OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE SAME ADMIRABLE PATTERN AS THEIR REGULAR FREE ELECTIONS, IN WHICH PRO-INDEPENDENCE PARTIES FREELY PARTICIPATE -- A DEMOCRATIC EXERCISE WHOLLY UNKNOWN IN MOST OF THE COUNTRIES NORMALLY SO CRITICAL OF THE COMMONWELTH AT THE U.N. (8/21/75)
3310

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-1-39-4